DC

ALL IN

13+ TEEN | 26

POISON IVY™

G. WILLOW
WILSON

MARCIO
TAKARA

ARIF
PRIANTO

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE

BATMAN

NO MANSION.
NO MONEY.
ABSOLUTE WARRIOR.

Written by **SCOTT SNYDER** • Art and cover by **NICK DRAGOTTA**

An all-new vision of the **Dark Knight** starts in **OCTOBER**

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GOTHAM.

ONE FINE MORNING.

It all started when **Janet** went to that **overpriced** supermarket.

DC COMICS PRESENTS:

POISON IVY

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX.

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That's how these things **always** start, right?

Some **random** event that doesn't seem **connected** to anything **else.**

One **small** variation in a **normal** day.

CAN I HELP YOU ***FIND*** SOMETHING, MA'AM?

...I'M NOT SURE.

I'M SHOPPING FOR MY, uh--

--**ROOM-MATE,** AND SHE'S VERY ***PICKY.***

WE DON'T EAT ***ALMONDS*** ANY-MORE BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFECT ON THE ***WATER TABLE*** AND ***BEE POPULATIONS...*** or something.

BUT WE CAN'T EAT ***CASHEWS*** EITHER BECAUSE THEY'RE ***IMPORTED***, WHICH I GUESS BURNS A LOT OF ***FOSSIL FUELS?***

Oh.

Okay.

I THINK ***PECANS*** ARE FINE? At least I'm ***pretty*** sure it's pecans.

THEY'RE ***NATIVE*** TO THE SOUTH-EASTERN UNITED STATES.

SOUNDS ***GREAT.***

I'LL, *err*, JUST LEAVE YOU TO IT, THEN.

I WONDER ***WHICH KIND*** OF ***ORGANIC*** THIS IS...

BECAUSE THERE'S A ***GOOD*** KIND, WHICH USES ***INTERPLANTING*** AND STUFF, AND A BAD KIND, WHICH ***CALLS*** ITSELF ORGANIC BUT REALLY JUST ***CLEAR-CUTS*** AROUND THE ORCHARDS TO KEEP ***PESTS*** AWAY AND THEN DOUSES EVERYTHING IN QUOTE-UNQUOTE ***ORGANIC PESTICIDE***, WHICH SHOULD BE AN ***OXYMORON.*** I NEVER REALIZED HOW ***MANIPULATIVE*** THESE FOOD LABELS ARE, YOU KNOW? YOU ***THINK*** YOU'RE GETTING SOMETHING ***WHOLESOME***, BUT REALLY IT'S JUST THE SAME INDUSTRIAL AGRICULTURE BUT GREENWASHED. ANYWAY, I ***PERSO***
THINK--

...

Oh WELL. I TRIED.

THE GREEN KNIGHT LIVES

HEY!

THUD

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!

You take a **different** route to **work** one day. You change your **flight home.**

Kids. I swear--

You go to a **new** grocery store.

Some little **deviation** you don't even think **twice** about.

KILLING

But it's the **universe's** way of putting you in the **wrong** place at the **wrong** time.

AN **ECOTERRORIST** GROUP CALLING ITSELF THE **ORDER OF THE GREEN KNIGHT** HAS CLAIMED **RESPONSIBILITY** FOR THE BOMBING OF **HEALTHFUL FOODS** THIS MORNING.

TERROR ATTACK: CLIMATE ACTION GROUP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILIT

SIXTEEN PEOPLE, INCLUDING **TWO CHILDREN,** WERE **KILLED.** AND DOZENS MORE **INJURED.**

IN A **STATEMENT,** THE GROUP SAID **INDUSTRIAL AGRICULTURE** IS A PRIMARY DRIVER OF **CLIMATE CHANGE,** AND THAT MORE ATTACKS ARE FORTHCOMING.

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU ***SURVIVED,*** JANET.

IF I HAD ***DIED,*** WOULDN'T THAT BE ***ONE LESS*** HUMAN TO WORRY ABOUT?

AREN'T ***THESE*** GUYS TRYING TO DO THE SAME KIND OF THING ***YOU*** WANT TO DO?

NOT IF THEY TAKE ***YOU*** OUT IN THE PROCESS. I SAVED YOU FROM ***MYSELF***--I'D HATE TO LOSE YOU TO A BUNCH OF ***ROOKIES*** WHO BLOW UP ***SUPERMARKETS.***

WHY?

BECAUSE I'M ***SELFISH*** AND ***OKAY*** WITH IT.

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE ***EXCEPTIONS*** FOR PEOPLE YOU ***LIKE,*** WHAT'S THE ***POINT?***

BUT THEY'RE *WELCOME* TO BLOW UP RICH-PEOPLE SUPER-MARKETS, *WHOEVER* THEY ARE.

IT'LL GIVE THE *BAT-PEOPLE* SOMETHING TO *DO*.

WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU *GOING?*

I *SAW* SOMETHING *STRANGE* IN THE *MARSHES* THE OTHER DAY AND I WANT TO TAKE ANOTHER *LOOK* AT IT WHILE THE *WEATHER* IS STILL GOOD.

YOU'RE LEAVING ME HERE *ALONE?*

WHAT IF ONE OF THOSE *TERRORISTS* BREAKS IN?

POOR TERRORIST.

*In the **beginning**, I thought Gotham's new **ecoterrorist** group was **not** my **problem**.*

*I'm not one to **gatekeep**. Besides, I had **other** projects to focus on.*

After so much destruction and **death**, I wanted to **build** something.

Heal something.

Entering
ETLAND
AREA
AREA IS A PLANT
ANIMAL HABITAT
ASE PROTECT
TURAL RESO

Nurture what parts of the Earth I **could.**

I started with the **obvious.**

If **forests** are the Earth's **lungs, wetlands** are its **liver.**

Filtering out **toxins.** Cleansing so much of the **junk** humankind **dumps** into it.

Not even the most **brilliant** scientist could design such an **efficient** ecosystem.

The wetlands outside **Gotham** have had a **rough** time.

Not just from **decades** of industrial **pollution,** but from my battle with **Woodrue.**

So in a very **real** sense, this is **my** responsibility.

It reminds me why I **fight.**

It reminds me who I **am.**

Nature is **resilient.**

It **wants** to **thrive,** even after it's been subjected to years of **abuse** and **neglect.**

All it needs is a little **encouragement.**

And room to **grow.**

It's **easy** to succumb to **despair.** I did. Sometimes I **still** do.

But then I **remind** myself that there are **still** things worth **saving.**

Like **this** place. This little **marshland,** siphoning up all the **grime** of **Gotham** before it reaches the **sea.**

The **Earth** hasn't given up yet.

And so **we** must not give up.

We have to help it **fight back,** inch by inch, root by stem by **flower.**

Until the **balance** of **life** is restored.

We **are** the **Green.** If it dies, **we** die.

But human beings are **tragic.**

We **can't help** getting in our own **way.**

SO I **WASN'T** IMAGINING THINGS.

We **build** where we know we **shouldn't.** We **take** more than we **need.**

We sow the **seeds** of our own **destruction.**

Take this abandoned **town** clogging up my **marshes,** for example.

It should **never** have been **built.**

And as far as **I** can tell, it never **was.**

You see, it wasn't **there** last week.

Back in Gotham, **Janet** was just waiting for things to go back to **normal.**

That's what **everyone** wants after something **horrible** happens, right?

The comfort of **routine.** A reassuring return to **normal life.**

CREEAK

What in the--

But here's the **thing.**

Normal isn't **real.**

It never **was.**

Anyone who **hasn't** learned that yet--

--will learn it **soon.**

When we think of **normal**, we think of **grocery stores** full of **fresh food** and **antibiotics** for our **infections** and **vaccines** to prevent **diseases.**

But that's **not** normal at all. That was a historical **aberration.** One **tiny** century out of seven **billion** years of **existence.**

An unsustainable **blip** we just happened to **luck into.**

01 △

C'mon, **c'mon...**

PRESS
PRESS
PRESS
PRESS
PRESS

That kind of normal?

TERRORIST ATTACKS, CREEPY **SHRINES** ON YOUR DOORSTEP...

...HOW MANY **WEIRD INCIDENTS** CAN YOU CRAM INTO A **SINGLE DAY?**

If we **cook** the planet, **that** kind of normal is **never** coming back.

...Oh.

ANOTHER ATTACK?

IT'S *THEM*-- THOSE *TREE HUGGERS* FROM THE *NEWS*--

It's possible that it's **already** *too late.*

...I JUST WANTED TO BUY *GROCERIES* AND GO TO *YOGA CLASS.*

WHAT DID I DO *WRONG?*

Welcome to MARSHVIEW!

Where We Enjoy the Good Life!

Meanwhile, I was confronting a **different symptom** of the **same disease.**

HELEN'S BOUTIQUE

From an era when we tried to inflict **normal** on **every** corner of the **Earth--**

--even places where it was **obviously** unsustainable.

Like **swamp-land** that **sinks** several inches every single year.

ALGAE...

...IT'S LIKE THE ***WHOLE*** TOWN WAS ***UNDERWATER*** UNTIL VERY RECENTLY...

BUT IF THIS PLACE *SANK* INTO THE *MARSHES* DECADES AGO...

...HOW DID IT GET *UNSUNK?*

WHAT *CHANGED?*

BARBER SHOP

Huh. PRETTY OLD-TIMEY.

THIS PLACE IS LIKE SOME KIND OF NORMAN ROCKWELL-TYPE *THEME PARK.*

I WONDER WHY EVERYONE *LEFT.* AND WHERE THEY *WENT.*

Hmm?

The **Earth** fights back against our attempts to **normalize** it, of course.

But mostly we don't **listen.**

I SEE THEM TOO

At least, not until it's **too late.**

CREEAAAV

Huh?

HELLO? IS SOME-ONE *THERE?*

?!

SMASH

SPLASH

Ugh!

Well, THAT'S ANNOYING. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THE FLOOR WAS ROTTEN...

WHO BUILDS A SUBURB IN THE MIDDLE OF A SWAMP ANYWAY? WHY GO TO THE EFFORT?

CLEARLY, THEY SPENT A LOT OF TIME FIGHTING THE WATER.

HUMAN VANITY... ALWAYS WANTING TO BUILD STUFF WHERE IT'S NOT MEANT TO GO...

... AND THEN ACTING SURPRISED WHEN NATURE TAKES IT ALL BACK AGAIN...

BZZT BZZT BZZT

VOICEMAIL? WHO IS JANET TALKING TO?

--BOMBINGS, SOME CREEPY TYPE OF **OFFERING** OUTSIDE MY DOOR--

--I THOUGHT THINGS WERE GOING TO **CALM DOWN** AFTER THAT WHOLE SHOWDOWN WITH **WOODRUE**, BUT EVERYTHING'S AS **WEIRD** AS EVER.

Sometimes I ***forget*** *that Janet has* ***friends*** *who aren't* ***me.***

YOU DOIN' OKAY? THE BOSS WORKS YOU PRETTY HARD.

I DON'T KNOW, I DON'T **KNOW** IF I'M **OKAY.**

I WAS **HOPING** I'D FIGURE **OUT** IF I WAS OKAY OR NOT BY TALKING TO **YOU.**

WANT ME TO COME OVER?

CAN YOU *DO* THAT?

I MEAN, WITH ALL THE **POLICE** AND EVERY **BAT-FURSONA** IN **GOTHAM** COMBING THE STREETS LOOKING FOR **ECOTERRORISTS?**

Come *on*, Janet, pick up.

--I GOTTA GO, CROC. THE *BOSS* IS CALLING.

...AIN'T *THAT ALWAYS* THE WAY.

JANET, *FINALLY.* LISTEN.

I THINK I *ACCIDENTALLY* RESURRECTED A *GHOST TOWN.*

You *what?*

IT'S THE *ONLY* EXPLANATION THAT MAKES *SENSE.*

THIS PLACE *WASN'T HERE* BEFORE I STARTED *RECLAIMING* THE *WETLANDS.* THE *WATER TABLE* MUST HAVE *SHIFTED* AND *EXPOSED* IT.

Okay, SO...

... CAN'T YOU JUST... PUT IT *BACK?*

SLAM

LIKE *FLOOD* IT AGAIN?

IT'S NOT THAT *SIMPLE.* NOT UNTIL I FIGURE OUT EXACTLY *HOW* I BROUGHT IT BACK IN THE *FIRST* PLACE.

Well, I'VE GOT A WEIRD SHRINE OUTSIDE MY DOOR, IF WE'RE COMPARING OUR WORK-DAYS.

COULD IT BE FROM THOSE GREEN KNIGHT PEOPLE? MAYBE THEY KNOW I WAS AT THAT SUPERMARKET AND THEY'RE COMING BACK TO FINISH THE JOB.

WHO IS THE GREEN KNIGHT ANYWAY? ISN'T THAT FROM SOMETHING?

YEAH. IT'S A STORY FROM KING ARTHUR. HE'S THE GUY SIR GAWAIN FIGHTS. A SYMBOL OF NATURE.

FLIK

YOU'VE LOST ME, JANET.

I STUDIED SCIENCE, NOT LITERATURE. I--

--Lord.

Normal.

It's not coming back.

It was never here at all.

JAN... I HAVE A FEELING SOMETHING *BAD* HAPPENED HERE.

I MEAN NOT LIKE SINKING INTO THE *SWAMP*-- THAT WAS *INEVITABLE.* I MEAN BAD LIKE... like...

...LIKE *TERRIFYING.*

Who *were* you?

What were you so *afraid* of?

IVY?

IVY!

HELLO? IVY?

YOU NEED TO PICK UP HE PHONE AND LOOK AT THE NEWS!

NEWS? WHAT ARE YOU *YELLING* ABOUT? I'M TRYING TO *THINK.*

I'M TRYING TO *TELL* YOU!

YOU'VE GOT A MUCH, *MUCH* BIGGER PROBLEM RIGHT NOW!

THE *LEADER* OF THIS *TERRORIST ORGANIZATION?* THE SO-CALLED *GREEN KNIGHT?*

WA TV NEWS

"POISON IVY" IDENTIFIED AS LEADER OF ECOTERRORIST CELL

EAKING NEWS || BREAKING NEWS || BREAKING NEWS || BREAKING NEWS || BREAKING NEWS || BREA

ON THE *NEWS*, THEY'RE SAYING IT'S *YOU.*

NEXT: DEAD RECKONING!

THE HOUSE OF STRICKLAND

AEW PRESENTS

SWERVE STRICKLAND

YEARS AGO.

SWERVE STRICKLAND WAS BORN TO FIGHT.

LIKE HIS FATHER, HE TOOK THAT FIGHT TO THE ARMY--BUT THE SERVICE DIDN'T SERVE.

HIS SERGEANT WANTED OFF-THE-BOOKS MERCENARIES, NOT SOLDIERS...

...SO SWERVE TOOK A WALK.

THE CODES OF LESSER MEN HAD FAILED HIM, SO SWERVE TURNED TO HIS OWN CODE...AND A NEW ARENA.

FIRST THE UNDERGROUND, AND THEN--THE RING.

WHEREVER HE WALKS, SWERVE TESTS MEN...

...NONE MORE THAN HIMSELF.

HIS WORD IS HIS LAW...

...EVEN IF THAT WORD GETS VIOLENT.

SWERVE TRIED FIGHTING FOR OTHERS--NOW HE FIGHTS FOR HIMSELF.

HE BLEEDS HIS ENEMIES DRY...

DC AEW

...BECAUSE HE LOVES IT.

STILL MAKING TROUBLE, STRICKLAND...YOU THINK I FORGOT YOU? YOU AIN'T CHANGED.

TOO GOOD FOR WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. TOO GOOD TO GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY.

HOLD THE GOLD, NANA.

THIS'S OLD BUSINESS--WON'T BE LONG.

YOU'RE WRONG, SARGE. THESE HANDS'RE FILTHY AS HELL. BUT IT'S NOT DIRT.

IT'S TEARS, SWEAT...AND BLOOD.

WHAT?! NO--NO WAY YOU CAN BE THAT FAST!

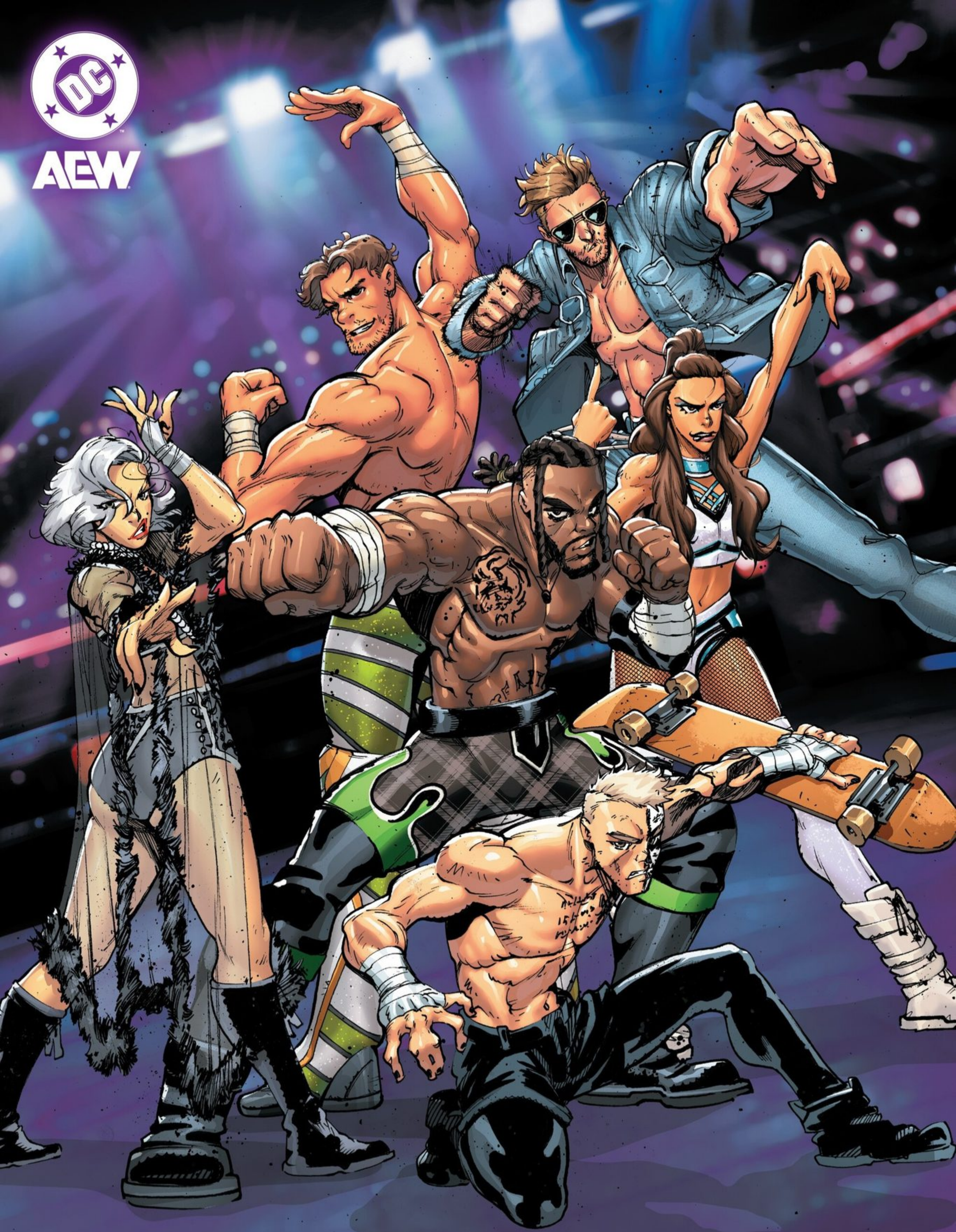
GET BACK! GET--

STOMP

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... SWERVE STRICKLAND!

STEVE ORLANDO WRITER · EDWIN GALMON ARTIST · HI-FI COLORS · JOSH REED LETTERS · MICHAEL McCALISTER EDITOR

DC AEW



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THE DARK KNIGHT IS BACK IN GOTHAM—
JUST IN TIME FOR MURDER TO STRIKE THE HEART OF HIS CITY!

BATMAN #153

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Writer
CHIP ZDARSKY
and artist
JORGE JIMÉNEZ
are back to explore
"The Dying City,"
in an essential new story

GO ALL IN THIS
OCTOBER

ALL IN

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

ABSOLUTE BATMAN

INTERVIEW WITH **SCOTT SNYDER**

Having previously defined one of the most influential eras of *Batman*, Scott Snyder returns to present an all-new vision of the Dark Knight alongside Nick Dragotta, one of the most viscerally powerful artists of the contemporary era, beginning with October's *Absolute Batman* #1.

Scott, how did you become involved in DC's All In initiative?

Scott Snyder: When DC called and told me they wanted to take their biggest collective swing in a number of years I knew I couldn't turn down the chance to be a part of it. I'm so honored and thrilled to play a role in this amazing thing.

What makes the Absolute Universe distinct?

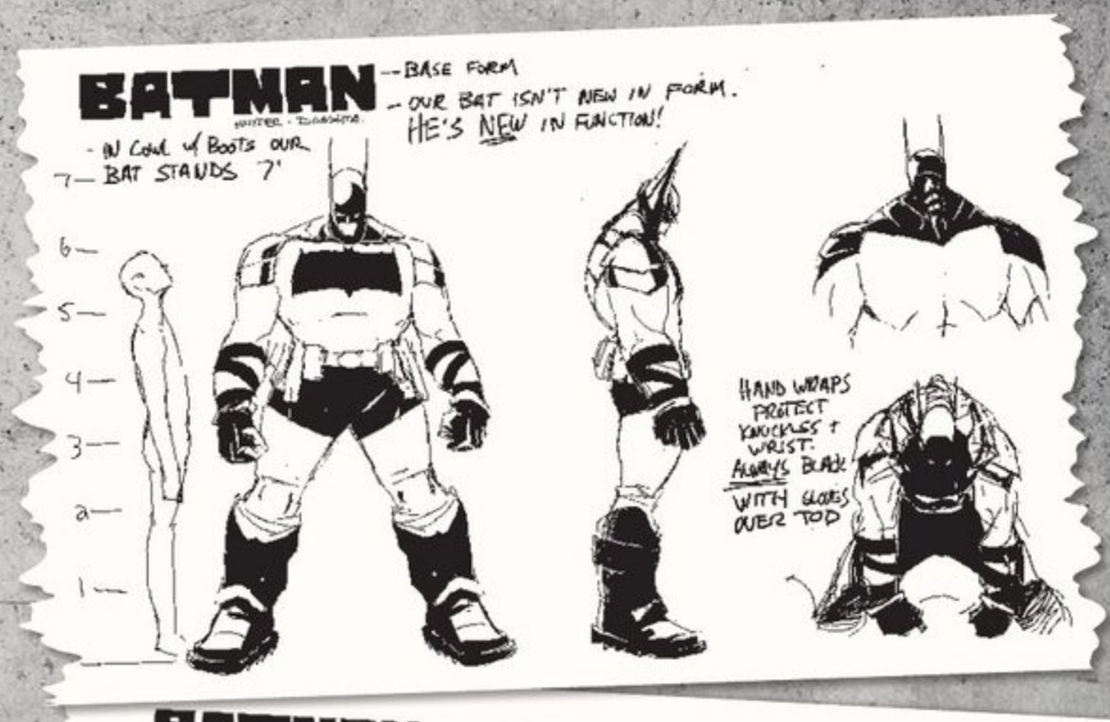
This is a universe that's uncharted, surprising, chaotic, wild, dangerous, and crazy fun—it's a place where the heroes are underdogs, where the odds are stacked against them even more strongly, so they have to be fighters, to shine brighter. And getting to build this universe with some of the most amazing creators in comics...it's been one of the best times I've had in my entire career. I can't wait for everyone to see what we've been forging together.

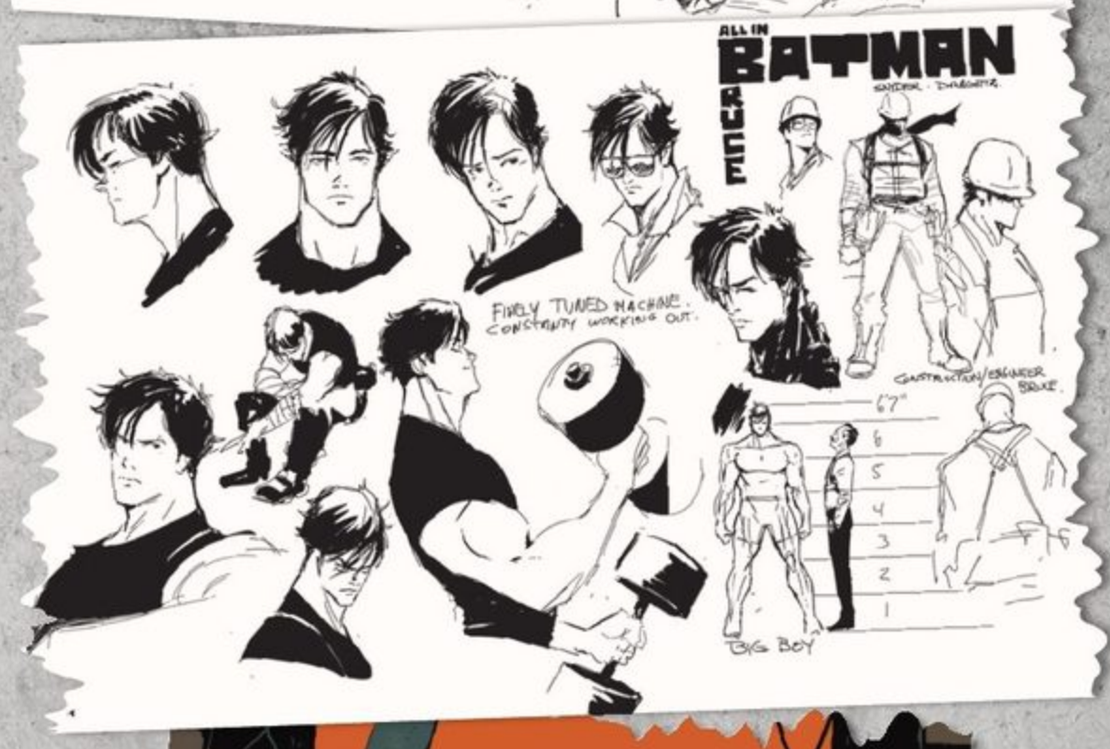
All In is designed as a line-wide jumping-on point. Every book will start a new epic story over the course of the fall: all the books in the main DC Universe, and in a whole new line of daring reinventions called the Absolute Universe. From October on, DC will have every kind of superhero story you could want: blockbuster, wild, personal, daring, everything; all of it connected by a megastory that starts in *DC All In Special*. It's all in the books, all in the stories, all right here in our DC comics.

How is *Absolute Batman* different than any of your past Batman stories?

For the first time in my career, I don't want to give anything away. I just want people to open up the book and enter this new, shocking Gotham without knowing what's coming...because what's coming is Batman like you've never seen him.

This is a story that has been in my head for a long time, one that means a lot to me. I just had no place to tell it. But here, in this new universe, in a new ongoing book, I can tell it in the best and biggest way possible. This is Batman as you've never seen him, Batman as underdog, Batman as warrior.


BATMAN
- BASE FORM
- OUR BAT ISN'T NEW IN FORM. HE'S NEW IN FUNCTION!
- IN Cowl w/ Boots OUR BAT STANDS 7'
HAND WRAPS PROTECT KNUCKLES + WRIST. ALWAYS BLACK WITH GLOVES OVER TOP



DON'T MISS
***ABSOLUTE BATMAN* #1,**
ON SALE IN OCTOBER!

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